

Commercial.

THE WEEK'S SHARE BUSINESS.

Hongkong, September 30th.

During the past week very few transactions of importance were recorded, most of the business done having been for settlement purposes. As was anticipated, the settlements on the 25th instant presented serious difficulties, and a large number of "shoddy" operators wanted "time" and, in lieu of dollars, offered uncertain and unreliable paper. Some of these gentry richly deserve to be exposed, and we are seriously thinking of publishing a list of the supporters of *Kinick's Share Bill*, aristocratic clerks and assistants in the wholesale whiskey and rag trades, who have had to go down on their marrow-bones to the man they have been disgracefully vilifying for months past. But the worst has not yet been reached; it is stated that the settlements for October and November will be a disaster, and that, unless the Imuris Mines turn up trumps (diamonds) and Hongkong Banks improve twenty per cent., the local market must inevitably collapse. However, collapses on the local share market are of frequent occurrence, and as dozens of rascally heads-in-win-and-tails-lose operators are regarded in the Hongkong Club as immaculate victims of misfortune (and Moddy), and encouraged to drown their sorrows in copious baths of whiskey and soda—on the chit system, or by the aid of *Kinick's Share Bill*, an arrangement of some sort will be arrived at without anybody being "run in" for bigamy or any such serious offence against public morality. So mote it be!

Our inquiries would suggest that a rise in certain stocks which of late have, owing to scarcity of ready cash, been "beared" down below their actual face value, may reasonably be anticipated to improve; but it should not be overlooked, owing to money being such a scarce commodity and the general community such a decidedly pronounced "busted flush," that if prospects are favorable in some directions they are equally unfavorable in others. One of these days we may find time to carefully analyse the actual value of the leading stocks in our Share List for the benefit of our readers; but at present, in opposing the German nobility and their obsequious British toadies and adherents who wish to make Hongkong a German colony, our time is too much occupied to enable us to do fair justice to a question which is of paramount interest to commercial circles. And so we have to "go slow."

Since our last report comparatively little has been done in Banks; shares appeared to be hard to get at early last week, but as settlement day approached they were plentiful enough and some transfers were effected at 171. It would be difficult to say at present what the actual quotation is, but there are plenty shares offering at 170.

In the scrip of the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, sales have been made at 153—sellers now "ruling" the market. Adverse reports concerning this Bank are still current in business circles, and on that ground alone an independent inquiry into the local management should be insisted on by the shareholders. The Hon. J. J. Kewick is the sole director in the colony, and no doubt runs the show as he thinks fit, so that under all circumstances it would be better to hand over the concern as another general agency to Jardine, Matheson & Co. Somebody would be responsible if "the princely house" had full charge; who can be made responsible as matters stand we do not know.

The National Bank of China's ordinary shares have changed hands at 60 per cent. discount, and Founders' shares at 810. Nothing has been done in Marine Insurance since we last wrote.

China Fires have been placed at 87, and there are sellers of Hongkong's at 3173.

A trifling business in Docks has been put through at 87 per cent. premium for cash and also at 84 for December.

China Sugars have slightly improved and are now wanted at 170; a few "time" transfers at 177-1/2 for October have been arranged. Luxons are still a drug on the market, and it is really hard to say at what price these shares would find purchasers. Offers to sell at 52 meet with no response. We would again suggest to the General Agents that some explanation should be given to the shareholders why the value of their scrip has fallen from 100 in February last to 48, the rate at which shares changed hands only a few days since, in the face of glittering official reports as to future prospects. This is a matter that should be thoroughly and independently investigated by those interested—by those who have lost money in the concern. Will we undertake it? No! thank! backbones brokers, turncoat shareholders, and the large army of toadies and tuff-hunters can fight their own personal battles in future so far as the *Hongkong Telegraph* is concerned; but when matters affecting public interests arise, we shall not fall in the duty we owe to the colony.

There was an attempt made to rush up Imuris stock during the week; and sales at as high as 9 were reported before settlement day; but since then believers in this Mexican mystery have weakened, and no wonder, in the face of Mr. A. M. Womble's report to Mr. F. H. Seymour, the Company's General Manager, published in the *Financial Times* of August 22nd. If Mr. Womble is accurate in his statements, and we fail to see any reason to doubt either his status as a mining expert or his good faith, the Imuris Mining Company is another of those bare-faced swindles which have ruined so many thousands of people in various parts of the world.

After sales of Charbonnages at 370, the rate dropped to 160, the stock closing firm, with buyers. Doubtless as the result

of our special telegram from Singapore, published on the 25th instant, Jolebus have been in increased demand, and a fair business has resulted at from 42 to 53.

Douglas Steams were done at 41 cash early in the week, but are now slightly weaker, with sellers at 40. There has been some inquiry for Indo-Chinas at 30 per cent. discount.

No other stocks need be specially referred to.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—170 per cent. prem., nominal.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—95 per share, buyers.

China Insurance Company—455 per share, sellers.

North China Insurance—115, 255 per share, sellers.

Canton Insurance Company, Limited—107 per share, sellers.

Yangtze Insurance Association—115, 70 per share, buyers.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—115, 150 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—317 per share, sellers.

China Fire Insurance Company—387 per share, sales and buyers.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—88 per cent. premium, sales and buyers.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—83 per share, sales and buyers.

China and Manila Steam Ship Company—60 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Gas Company—113 per share, sellers.

Hongkong Hotel Company—55 per share, buyers.

Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—101.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—30 per cent. discount, buyers.

Douglas Steamship Company—440 per share, ex. div. sellers.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—170 per share, sales and buyers.

Luxon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—52 per share, sales and buyers.

Hongkong Ice Company—86 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—75 per share.

Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—7 per share, sellers.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—30 per share, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884, B—24 per cent. premium, sellers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884, C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886, E—14 per cent. premium.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—104 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Limited—25 per share, nominal.

Punjom and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Co.—31 per share, sales and sellers.

The Raub Gold Mining Co., Limited—80.60 per share, buyers.

Imuris Mining Co., Limited—81 per share, sellers.

The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited—84 per share, sellers.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—70 per share, sellers.

Tongshin Coal Mining Co.—250 per share, sales and buyers.

The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—86 per share, buyers.

H. G. Brown & Co., Limited—48 per share, buyers.

Crickbank & Co., Limited—25 per share, nominal.

The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.

The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Company, Limited—810 per share, sellers.

The China-Bornco Co., Limited—10 per share, sales.

The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Limited—12 per share, sellers.

The Green Island Cement Co.—10 per share, sellers.

The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited—76 per share, sales and sellers.

The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Limited—44 per share, sellers.

Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—13 per share, sellers.

The West Point Buildings Co., Limited—26 per share, sellers.

The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Limited—24 per share, sellers.

The Labak Planting Co., Limited—10 per share, sellers.

The Jolebus Mining and Trading Co., Limited—53 per share, sales and buyers.

The Selams Tin Mining Co., Limited—50 cents per share, sellers.

The Shamien Hotel Co., Limited—nominal.

The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—14 per share, sellers.

The Bank of China, Japan & the Straits, Ltd.—115 per share, sellers.

The Bank of China, Japan & the Straits Ltd.—Founders' shares, 137 per share, sellers.

London and Pacific Petroleum Co., Ltd.—715, sellers.

The National Bank of China, Ltd.—60 per cent. dis., sales.

The National Bank of China, Ltd.—Founders' shares, 1150 per share, sales and buyers.

ON LONDON—Bank T. T. 3/11

Bank Bills, on demand 3/11

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11

Credit at 4 months' sight 3/11

Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11

ON PARIS—

Bank Bills, on demand 1/98

Credit, at 4 months' sight 1/50

On Demand T. T. 2/11

On Demand 2/11

ON SHANGHAI—

Bank T. T. 2/11

Private, to days' sight 2/11

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

EMMA F. CROWELL, American bark, 1,036, A. S. Pendleton, 20th Sept.—Shanghai 19th

September, Ballast—Shewan & Co.

ARDGAY, British steamer, 1,080, Cass, 20th Sept.—Wuhu 25th September, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

TEHERAN, British steamer, 1,684, V. W. Hall, 20th Sept.—Bombay 12th Sept. and Singapore 23rd, General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MEMNON, British steamer, 1,300, A. Dorri, 20th Sept.—Saidkan 25th Sept., General—Butterfield & Swire.

THALES, British steamer, 820, Hunter, 20th Sept.—Taiwan 20th Sept. and Amoy 28th, General—D. Layman & Co.

TARTOS, German steamer, 1,312, F. Hegler, 20th Sept.—Sourabaya 19th Sept., Seger—Geo. R. Stevens & Co.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.

ZEUS, German bark, for Hamburg.

ORIENT, German bark, for Newchwang.

TARAPACA, British bark, for Manila.

PRINCE, German steamer, for Malacca.

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DEPARTURES.

September 30, *Triumph*, German steamer, for

Hoblow, etc.

September 30, *Zephyr*, British str., for Amoy, etc.

September 30, *Lancelot*, British steamer, for

Joanna (Java).

September 30, *Opbach*, British steamer, for Singapore, etc.

September 30, *Taiyang*, British steamer, for

SWATOW, etc.

September 30, *Argosy*, British str., for Canton.

PARSINGERS—ARRIVED.

Per *Momon*, str. from Sandakan.—Mr. Rozell, and 187 Chinese.

Per *Taheran*, str. from Bombay, etc.—130 Chinese.

Per *Thales*, str. from Taiwan, etc.—Dr. E. Bodloe, Mr. Ching, and 8 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The British steamship *Momon* reports that she left Sandakan on the 25th instant. Had fine weather throughout.

The German steamship *Taheran* reports that she left Surabaya on the 19th instant. Had north-east wind and fine weather.

The British steamship *Taheran* reports that she left Bombay on the 12th instant, and Singapore on the 23rd. Had fine weather.

The British steamship *Thales* reports that she left Taiwan on the 27th instant, and Amoy on the 28th. Had light variable winds and fine weather throughout. In Amoy the steamships *Kwiyang*, *Bornio*, *Formosa*, and *Cheong Hock Kian*.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.

For Swatow, Taiwan, etc.—Per *Thales* to-morrow, the 1st October, at 10.30 A.M.

For Singapore.—Per *Orelina* to-morrow, the 1st October, at 10.30 A.M.

For Kuching.—Per *Edendale* to-morrow, the 1st October, at 10.30 A.M.

For Europe, etc., etc., India via Bombay.—Per *Cathay* to-morrow, the 1st October, at 11.00 A.M.

For Hallow, Saigon, Singapore, Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya.—Per *Bornio* to-morrow, the 1st October, at 3.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Holstein* to-morrow, the 1st October, at 4.30 P.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STAMERS.

ACTIV, Danish steamer, 355, H. Hygom, 21st Sept.—Macao 21st Sept., General.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

ANLAK, British steamer, 1,492, W. Ellis, 25th Sept.—Kobe 18th Sept., General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

ALWINE, German steamer, 400, Petersen, 25th Sept.—Pakhoi, and Hallow 27th Sept., General.—Wieler & Co.

AVOCHIE, British steamer, 1,051, T. Rowin, 15th Sept.—Saigon 10th Sept., Rice.—Melchers & Co.

BRINLEY, British steamer, 1,481, Clark, 29th Sept.—London 18th August, and Singapore 24th September, General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

CATHAY, British steamer, 1,873, A. Symons, 20th Sept.—Shanghai 20th Sept., Mail and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

CHEUNG-CHIEU, British steamer, 1,213, Fred. Webb, 23rd Sept.—Saigon 18th Sept., Rice.—Sun Hui Chai.

CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO, American steamer, 3,548, Wm. Ward, 20th Sept.—San Francisco 3rd Sept. and Yokohama 23rd Sept., Mail and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

COLLINGHAM, British steamer, 1,440, G. W. Watson, 20th Sept.—Kuching 20th Sept.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

DIAMANT, British steamer, 1,114, J. C. Girard, 20th Sept.—Manila 20th Sept., General.—Shewan & Co.

EDOKYDAI, British steamer, 1,566, R. Humphrey, 20th Sept.—Kuching 20th Sept., Coals.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

FAME, British steamer, 1,117, Lieut. Wm. G. Comley, R.N.R.—Hongkong Government tender.

GENERAL WERNER, German steamer, 1,810, B. Blauke, 25th Sept.—Yokohama 14th Sept., Mail and General.—Melchers & Co.

HAMBOURG, British steamer, 1,999, J. D. C. Arthur, 20th Sept.—Ward 20th Sept., and Saigon 18th Sept.—Butterfield & Swire.

HOLSTEIN, German steamer, 1,102, T. Rohm, 21st Sept.—Saigon 16th Sept., Rice and Faddy.—Tung Kee.

JOHANN, German steamer, 427, H. Blago, 15th Sept.—Touzon 10th Sept., General.—Wieler & Co.

MONKUT, British steamer, 850, Geo. Anderson, 24th Sept.—Bangkok 15th Sept. and Kobe 16th Sept., Rice and Wood.—Yuen Fat Hong.

OCLINA, German steamer, 1,628, F. Behrens, 20th Sept.—Hiro 20th Sept., Rice and General.—Siemens & Co.

PATRIA, British steamer, 2,035, Joo. Pantou, R.N.R., 11th Sept.—Vancouver 20th Aug., Yokohama 4th Sept., and Shanghai 9th Sept.—Doddwell, Carrill & Co.

PICCOLA, German steamer, 875, Hass, 20th Sept.—Nagasaki 12th Sept., Coals.—Melchers & Co.

PRINCE, British steamer, 1,051, A. Stopani, 20th Sept.—Hankow and Wampoa Dock Co.

PRINCE, German steamer, 1,114, J. C. Girard, 20th Sept.—Hallow 20th Sept. and Hallow 27th, General.—Siemens & Co.

RYECLIFF, British steamer, 1,311, J. Mooney, 15th Sept.—Nagasaki 16th Sept., Coals.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

SHIELD OREDO, British steamer, 876, C. O. Mages, 20th Sept.—China Sea 17th Sept., Submarine Cable.—E. T. Telegraph Co.

SMITH, Chinese steamer, 704, H. Leffer, 20th Sept.—Swatow 20th Sept., General.—Siemens & Co.

VERON, British steamer, 1,876, F. H. Seymour, 24th Sept.—Yokohama 10th Sept., Mail and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

VORWARTS, German steamer, 612, L. Moller, 24th Sept.—Hallow 24th Sept., Wood.—Wieler & Co.

WINGLO, British steamer, 1,517, A. de St. phong, 23rd Sept.—Calcutta 5th Sept., Peking 12th, and Singapore 17th, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

YALING, German bark, 540, Captain J. R. S. Barba, Hongkong.

Silvovich, Russian cruiser, 900 tons, 1,000 horse-power, 1 gun, Commander Plakst, Amoy.

Sophie, German cruiser, 2,100, Captain Herling, Yokohama.

Swatara, American corvette, Commander John McDougan, Kobe.

Tejo, Portuguese gunboat, 500 tons, 100 horse-power, 3 guns, Lieut. Commander C. R. Camilla, Macao.

Trionphante, French cruiser, 4,500, Captain de Cornulier, Vladivostok.

Villars, French cruiser, Captain Thomas, Vladivostok.

Viper, French gunboat, 284 tons, 425 horse-power, 4 guns, Commander Constola, on a cruise.

Volturno, Italian gunboat, 345, Captain Roych, Shanghai.

Wladimir Monomach, Russian ironclad, 8,000, Captain Donabass, Vladivostok.

Wladimir, Russian gunboat, 400 horse-power, Captain Hollovi, Taiwan.

YALING, German bark, 540, Captain J. R. S. Barba, Hongkong.

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